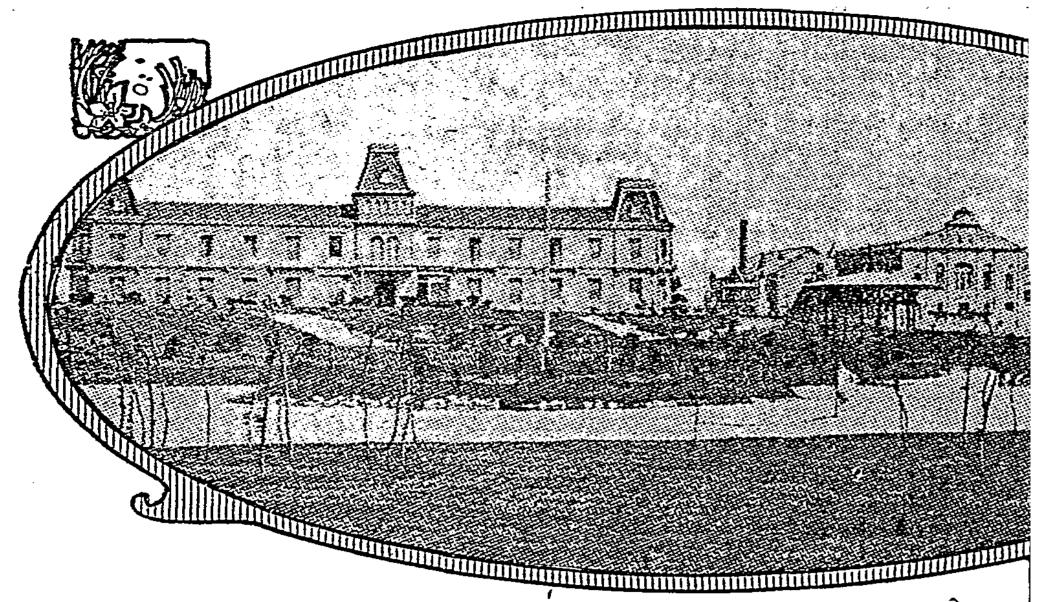
CLEMENCEAU PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE WOMEN OF ARGENTINA



"Mor del Plata, the Common Meeting Ground for Wealthier Families."

This is the sixth of a series of articles giving his impressions of South America written by the former Premier of France.

Ty Georges Clemenceau.

HUS, then, we see that I had good ground for setting down as traits in the Argentine character a readiness to learn from Europe utilitarian institutions, as well as a desire and capacity to carry forward any undertaking, whether public or private, to the furthest pitch of perfection, and even if possible beyond.

The danger in any rapid colonial growth is obviously to stop at the half way, and this, unavoidable at the outset, and fatally easy to achieve, must in time tend to draw off the attention from the steady, continuous effort without which no good results can be attained.

The more methodical men of the North always reproach the impulsive Latins with an inclination to stop at an enthusiastic start, leaving to the imagination the filling in of the blanks left in their undertakings by this unsatisfactory sys-

I must confess that when I set out for South America I expected to have to exercise the utmost forbearance if I wanted to escape the charge of being a harsh critic, for I was perforce somewhat influenced by glib sociologists, and also by that current of public folly which, taking no account of consanguinity, directs our steps toward countries to which England and Germany have shown us

the way. But not at all. ! If the prodigious force of expansion of the great Republic of North America has inspired in the South American republics a fear of comparison, every impartial observer must, I think, recognize with pleasure the hardy and generous development of some of the best forces of futurity in these growing communities which are undoubtedly destined to assist in the building up of a higher

and better humanity. Buckle, whose mind was of no ordinary calibre, did not hesitate to affirm in his "History of Civilization" that the dominant force of soil and climate in Brazil was such that it must shortly become the cradle of a highly civilized and progressive community. Events have proved that this bold prophecy was strictly correct, as I shall have occasion to show

🐪 There are in the South American republics, as there are necessarily in the United States and elsewhere, varying degrees of realization. This is unavoidable at the beginning, where sacrifices must be made until ground space has acquired a certain value, but those countries which I have visited-the Argentine, Uruguay, and Brazil-have practically proved that they will not be satisfied with doing things by halves, and the power to work systematically until the highest possible finish has been put on whatever enterprise they take in hand is the best augury for the success of their future undertakings.

There is no need of a prolonged sojourn in Buenos Ayres to discover that this characteristic is conspicuous in the Argentine. I have mentioned the European aspect of his city—the least colonial looking probably of any place in South America. But I noticed at the same time that he refuses to be simply a Spaniard transplanted, although society, the upper class of Buenos Ayres, traces its descent with more or less authenticity from the conquistadores, and did originally issue from the Iberian Peninsula.

If we go further and inquire what other influence, besides that of soil and climate. has been exercised over the European stock in the basin of the Rio de la Plata. we are bound to be struck with the thought that the admixture of Indian blood must count for something. The negro element, never numerically

strong, appears to have been completely absorbed. There is very little trace of African blood. On the other hand, without leaving

Buenos Ayres, you cannot fail to be struck by some handsome half-castes to be seen in the police force and fire brigade, for example, and the regularity of their delicate features is very noticeable to the most unsuspecting observer. Directly I left the Province of Buenos

Ayres to travel northward I found the prevalence of the half-breed very pronounced. The Indian of South America, although closely related to the redskin of North America, is in every respect infinitely his superior. He had achieved a certain degree of civilization, which was brutally ended by the "conquistadores." In the northern provinces of the Argentine there still exist a few large native settlements, treated, alas! by the Government with but scant consideration. I heard too many stories about this for doubt to be possible. Not but what acts of savage barbarism can be proved against the Indians, such as the abominable trap they set for the peaceful Crevaux Mission in Bolivia, which ended in the massacre. We must, however, in justice, remember that the use of force as the sole argument with a primitive people is not calculated to lead them to find any other for themselves. A higher sentimentality may deplore the fact. Our implacable civilization has issued a death warrant to all races that cannot adapt themselves to our evolution, and against

the sentence there is no appeal. Yet the native races of the South are not. like those of the North, incapable of steady labor. I have seen native Indians employed even at Tucuman in the factory of M. Hilleret. Neither does he lack resource in his own intelligence. The difficulty is to adapt faculties developed in primitive surroundings to the larger demands of civilized activity, and this it is that prevents the aboriginal from making room for himself in the new organism imported from Europe with the white race. With greater powers of resistance than the redskins of the other hemisphere. he is doomed to disappear, but, unlike his

northern brother, he can never quite die out, since he has thoroughly impregnated with his blood the living flesh of his con-

I am not going to pretend to settle in a word the problem of the fusion of races. I will only observe that the inrush of Indian blood in the masses-and also to a very considerable extent in the upper classes-cannot fail to leave a permanent trace in the Argentine type notwithstanding the steady current of immigration.

And if I were asked to say what were the elemental qualities contributed to the coming race by the native strain. I should be inclined to think that his simplicity, dignity, nobility, and decision of character would modify in the happiest way the turbulent European blood of future genèrations

After all, the Argentine who declines to be Spanish has perhaps very good reasons for his action. Here he has succeeded better than in the Iberian peninsula in ridding himself of the Moorish strain that gave him his lofty chivalry, but which has yet so lamentably chained the race in the Oriental conception of a rigid theocracy. Why should not the native blood have taken effect already upon the European mixture, and, with the aid of those unknown forces which we may class under the collective term of

"climate." have prepared and formed a new people to be known henceforth by the obviously suitable name of Argentines? All that I can say is that there are Argentine characteristics now plainly visible in this conglomeration of the Latin races. The objection may be made that the

"Yankee" also shows strongly marked characteristics which distinguish him from the Anglo-Saxon stock, while we know that he is wholly unaffected by other than European strains. This is undeniable, and in his case, soil,

climate, and the extraordinary mixture of European types suffice to explain modifications which are apparently converging toward the creation of a type from a sub-type.

It is to my mind remarkable that the change undergone by the Americanized Englishman, passing from the Puritan rigidity of the North to the aristocratic bearing of the South, has for some reason ended in a rare vitalization of every kind of energy that may be summed up in the characteristic formula of a universal "go-ahead-ism," while the South American, having begun his career by a series of extravagant phases, both as regards his private and public life, which have earned for him the mistrust of Europe, is now manifestly settling down and developing a marked tendency to adopt by degrees those orderly methods of which the Northern races are so proud. while still retaining his taste for Latin

It is easier to generalize about the Argentine character than to probe it to the bottom. It is naturally in the upper classes that superior education throws into the greatest relief exactly those characteristics which lend themselves to generalization.

The American of the North is exceedingly hospitable. At a letter of introduction his house is thrown open to you. He establishes you in his household, and, while keeping himself free to continue his own occupations, he leaves you to your own devices.

The Argentine is no less friendly, but he shows it in a different manner. Although myself quite outside the business world. I was able to see enough of it to believe that if money has the same prestige here as elsewhere its cult is softened by a kindly generosity, and thus the keenness of the struggle for life is at least tempered by a charming and general suavity.

In their family relations, the differences between the social ideals of the North and South Americans are plainly visible. The family tie is stronger in the Argentine than perhaps in any other land The rich, unlike those of other countries take pleasure in having large families and marry young. One lady boasted in my presence of having thirty-four descendents- children and grand children -gathered around her table. Everywhere family anniversaries are carefully observed and all take pleasure in celebrating them. The greatest affection prevails and the greatest devotion to the parent roof-tree.

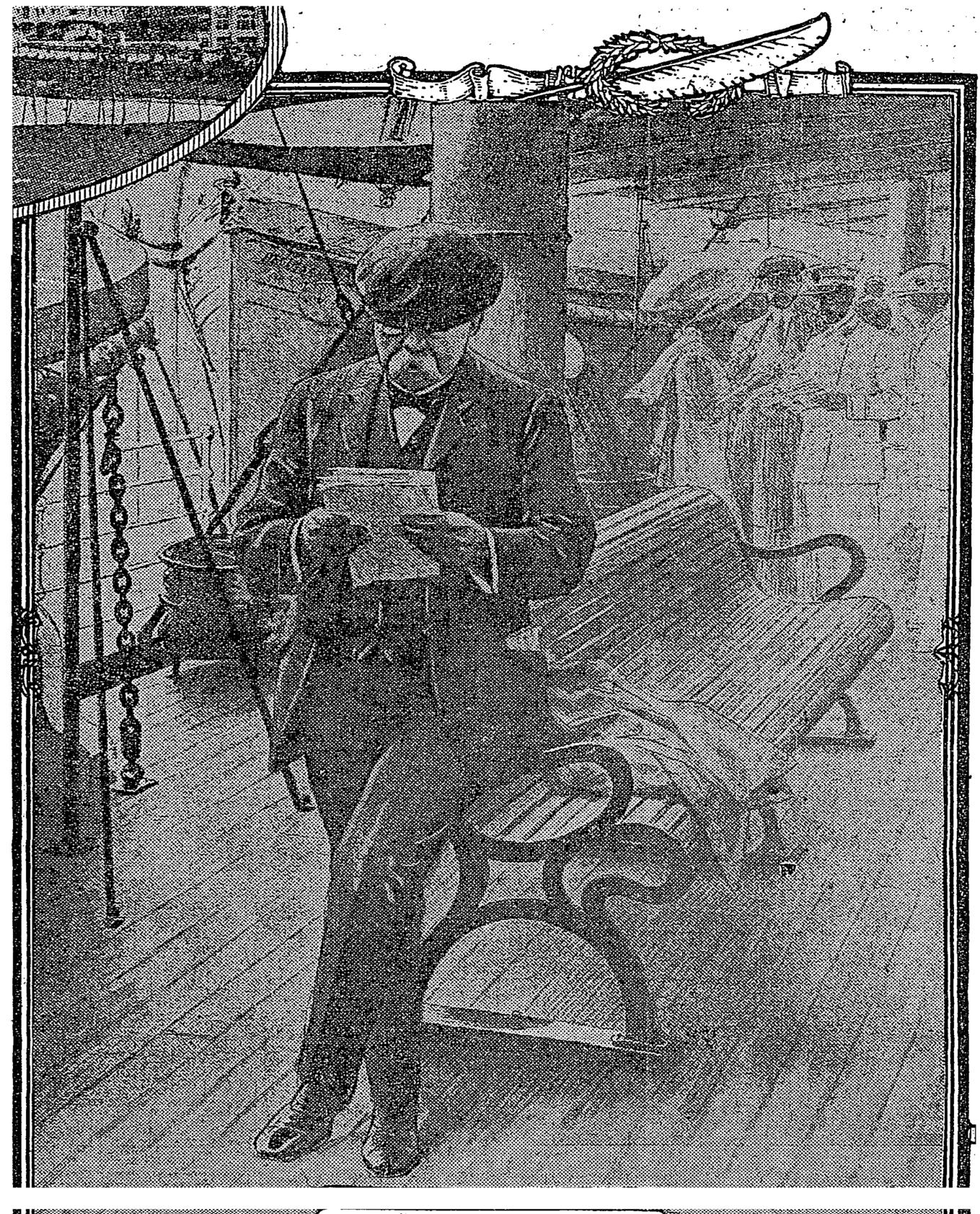
Not that the Argentine woman would appear to be a particularly admirable mother, according to our standard. On the contrary, she is accused of sending out into the world very ill brought up children. How, then, are we to explain the contradictory fact that such children become the most courteous of men? Perhaps, a certain wildness in youth should be regarded as the noisy but salutary

apprenticeship to liberty. All that can be seen of the public morals is most favorable. The women-generally extremely handsome in a super-Spanish style, and often fascinating in the extreme—enjoy a reputation that seems well

justified, of being extremely virtuous. I will not be impertinent enough to offer a description of Argentine beauty. Let me only mention the large black eyes, heavily shaded, the delicately golden skin beneath which there pulses a generous blood, a soft and ever youthful smile. I heard too much to their credit to believe anything against them. From what I saw, they appear to lead a life that is very far removed from conventional sins, but of their feelings, or passions, if I may be permitted the word. T dare not risk a word, for I am wholly in ignorance on the subject. Whether or no they are capable of living for love. of experiencing all its joy and its pain. I know not, since I was not admitted into their confidence. The most I could venture to say would be that they did not give me the impression of being made for the powerful reaction of life such as we know it in Europe.

I hope none will see in this remark the

Family Life There "A Dream of Love Materialized," According to the Former Premier of France---He Comments Also on Gambling.



slightest attempt at a criticism. We have only to remember that family life in the Argentina is a dream of love materialized and legitimatized, and, in the light of this fact, my remark can only to be unreserved praise. But even if this were not the case, the utmost credit would be due

respect in the colony. Above all, do not imagine that these charming women are incapable of conversation. Some ill-natured individuals have given them a bad reputation in this respect. Their principal occupation is evidently paying visits, and they gossip as best they can of their mutual friends who

to the women, who are the faithful de-

fenders of the home, and who by the

purity of their lives and the dignity of

their conduct have inspired universal

give no ground for tittletattle. This deficit makes itself felt in conversation. Dress and news from the Rue de la Paix are not missed at all. May not the same be true in other lands? Some are unkind enough to say that the beauties of Buenos Ayres are as prone to speculate in land as their mankind. It is quite possible. None will be surprised to learn that they did not give me

any information on the point. It is also said that they are very superstitious, and that they attach great importance to knowing exactly what must not be done on any given day of the week. or to what saint they should address their petitions. Here, again, I can give no authentic information. Naturally, had I been present, the first condition of an exclusively female gathering would have been unfulfilled. It seems to me more reasonable to believe that the many works of public charity in which the ladies of Buenos Ayres take a share would account for much time and also much talk.

To sum up, I should say that although the intellectual culture of feminine youth in the Argentine Republic is not one of the features in which they surpass us. and if superstition does at times hamper their mental development, it is none the less true that I was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of charming women, for whom a conversation of Parisian matters, entailing solid knowledge of many kinds, presented no difficulties. I will add that they added to the pleasure of the talk a sincere geniality and a candid simplicity which do not abound on the banks of the Seine.

I have not spoken of shopping, which is the main occupation of the fair sex in North America, for the reason that at Buenos Ayres I saw none. I mentioned that the footwalks of the business guarter, including Florida, the handsomest and busiest of the streets, were blocked to such an extent that it was impossible to walk there two abreast. You do not expect to hear that there are any elegant toilettes in this crowd. And, in fact, in the central streets no women are to be seen on foot for pleasure. With hasty step some are going about their business, and that is all. The others receive their tradesmen at home, or take their chance of calling in the motor car, which after 5 o'clock will probably not be allowed in the street to which they want to go. What is left, then, for the daily stroll? Only the wide avenues of the suburbs, where there is no particular attraction, and Palermo, the unique and inevitable Palermo, or rather a part of Palermo, the Recoleta, which makes a fine beginning for a public promenade. Under these circumstances it is evident

that the aspect of the pavements of

Buenos Ayres suffers by the absence of

the fair sex. It might be thought that at

Palarmo where the walks lead omong

flowers, lawns, and groves, our Argentines would recover the use of their limbs and guard against their dangerous tendency toward an overabundance of flesh, Not at all. Social conventions do not allow of this.

Eketch of M. Clemenceau

Made on Board the

Regina=Elena.

The ancients, men of mature mind maintained with the Delphic Apollo that excess in all things is a defect. Buenos Ayres has not yet arrived at this degree of wisdom, and women in society, not satisfied with giving themselves up wholly to a life of virtue, have elected to add a further piquancy to their reputation by a line of conduct that lends itself in no whit to even the most indifferent and colorless of gossip. In order to give no ground for scandal they must guard against even a stray encounter that might be commented on. Hence the fair sex of the capital will only venture to Palermo on condition that they meet there only men of the best breeding, who know that to stop on a public highway to chat with a lady whom they may meet in the evening in some salon would be an unpardonable breach of etiquette. De-

To complete the exotic air of the place add to the above that all husbands are jealous, or at least so they say, and it must be supposed there is some foundation for the statement. As far as I was able to judge, they are as amiable as their wives, and appeared by no means to harbor tragic intentions toward any man likely to arouse their resentment. No. But if by chance after dinner you permit yourself to talk quietly with two or three ladies, and that in the usual ebb and flow of a salon you are for a moment left alone with one, be sure that her husband will promptly appear on the scene, more genial than ever, to claim his share in the talk. At home this would appear strange, since we do not impose the spectacle of our private intimacies upon the public. Yet might not this very air of detachment which we insist upon lead, both in public and in private, to some of the tragedies of life? Is it wrong for a married couple to love each other, and when two hearts are in this way united how can a feeling so powerful fail at times to betray itself by some outward manifestation? Let us take heed lest in laughing

at others we denounce ourselves. A man in a very high position, father of a lad of 20, volunteered with much candor the information that in all the course of his married life he had nothing to reproach himself with, and he added that if he had been so unhappy as to fail in his duty, he should have considered himself unworthy of her who had given him all

No doubt the woman of whom he spoke. who was standing a few yards from us of his homage. Yet I could but wonder. as I listened to his simple and noble talk, into their confidence on such a subject. and whether a single one could be found the avowal?

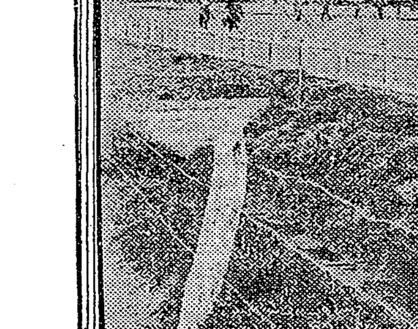
his sane morality gives the best possible

cidedly, we are far from Europe!

at the moment, was in every way worthy whether many Frenchmen would with equal simplicity have taken a foreigner who would not have blushed to make

. Whatever my reader may secretly think on the point he will. I hope, agree with me that the Argentine in these delicate matters has decidedly the best of us, and augury for the community he is building

I should like to say something about the Argentine girl. The difficulty is that I never saw her. Every one knows that in the north of America the young girl is the principal social institution. She has got herself so much talked about that neither Europe nor Asia can help know-Andrew La Armontina codicte ca in France



would be exposed to a sharp fire of comments. Still, as long as society does not make a criminal of the bachelor * * * None can deny that gambling occupies

too large a place in the life of a certain number of the newly rich. But are we indeed justified in pretending to be more scandalized at what takes place among our neighbors than at home? What might I not say about the development of the casinos?

To satisfy the vice in the masses, the Argentines have established lotteries which now add to the temptations, powerful enough already, provided by the race meetings. The evil is universal. I can but note it.

The form of gambling which is special to Buenos Ayres is an unbridled speculation in land. In Europe it is constantly stated that all the work of Buenos Ayres, as of the pampas, is done by foreigners, while the Argentine himself sits waiting for the value of his land to treble, quadruple, decuple his fortune without effort on his part. This might happen easily since the value of property has risen with giddy rapidity of late years. Sooner or later of course there must be a reaction; this is obvious. But so far it must be admitted that in a country where every self-respecting mortal owns a bit of land, large fortunes have been realized before the fortunate land owner has raised as much as a

Our compatriot, M. Basset, told me moreover that in his own case the rise in value of his uncultivated land had allowed him to recuperate the losses on his farm land. One cannot wonder under these circumstances that the price of land is a general subject of conversation -and this to such a point that the women having no bills from the Rue de la Paix to discuss, exchange daily comments on the absorbing subject which for them is of far more vital interest than any sentimental banalities. It is, in fact, under a more normal guise, a repetition of the old story of the fair of the Rue Quicampoix, in the days of the Mississippi shares, with this difference, that in the present case there is, if not an inexhaustible, at least solid, basis for gigantic spec-

portance in Argentine life, it is at least as certain that farming on a large scale. cattle breeding, commerce, and manufactures occupy there, as elsewhere, the continuous and steady attention of every one in whatever rank of life. The "estancia" needs a manager. A

flock of 10,000 head of cattle, (dairy, meat,

rearing,) giving good profits, wants or-

But if it cannot be denied that land

speculation assumes to-day special im-

on good terms with every one in the capital, and if not actively concerned in every business affair he could be if he chose. People who have never exchanged a word with him speak of him by his Christian name, and as there are not two "Benitos" of that type, no one is surprised. Very round, very insinuating, with a dash of the modern aristocrat in his bearing, he is a master of men, and does not stop at any sacrifice to attain his end. His little black eyes dart steely glances in a way that makes me think it might not be good to have him for an enemy.

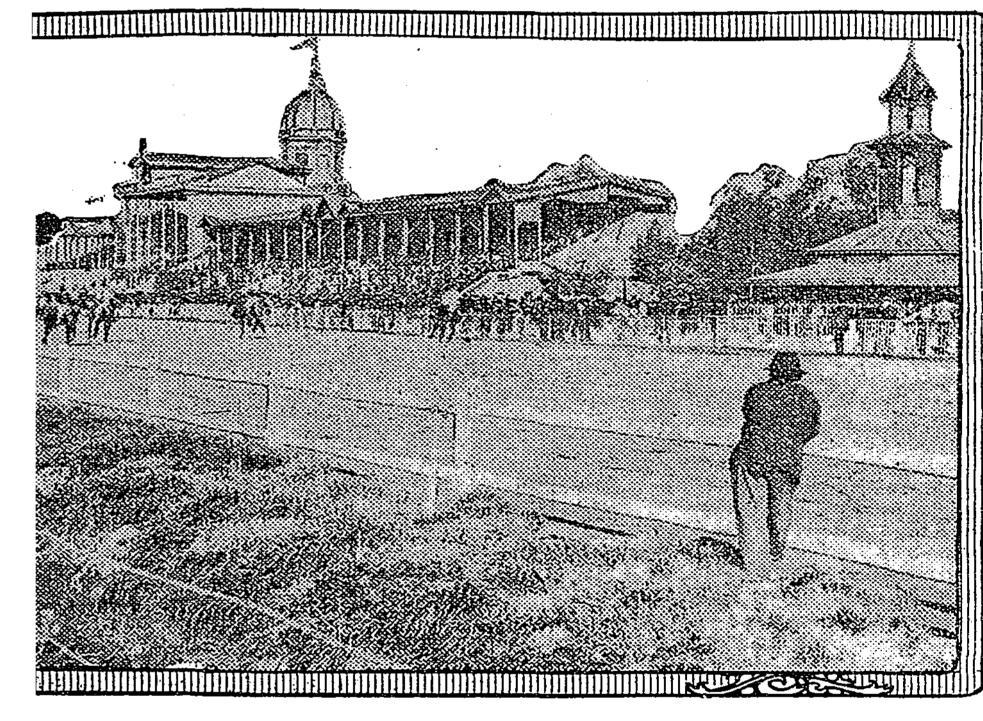
He has adversaries, of course, like every other man who mixes in politics, and especially when he combines business interests with those of a party. He looks quite unconscious of both.

His estancia, the Eldorado, with racing stables, herds of cattle. (it was on his estate that the oxen which fetched 25,000 francs apiece at auction were bred,) the Senate, which he attends with great regularity, and the innumerable business affairs he has in hand, to say nothing of the administration of the Jockey Club should make of him the busiest man in Buenos Ayres. He was invariably at leisure when he was asked to waste. time in my company or to show me something in or out of the city. Buenos Ayres being a place of the most triumphant amiability. I might do an injustice to othe ers if I said M. Benito Villanueva's kind? ness was unequaled. I shall only say that if many were as obliging as he, none sufpassed him in courtesy, and I am well qualified as a witness.

Who, indeed, could have done the honors of the Palermo race course better than he? All the arrangements modern, the fittings elegant-not a convenience wanting. The grand stand of the Jockey Club has on its upper story a first-class restanrant, where the members who trouble no more about the races than they need to make their bets can enjoy the pleasures of the table and a view of the winning post at the same time.

I see that at the Grand Prix of 1905 there were 35,000 spectators present, and the bets ran up to a fabulous sum. Sincerity compels me to make the same criticism of the hippodrome as of the Palermo park. What can be said for a hideous slope of brown earth, a disagreeable blot on the horizon? In laying out a race course the surrounding panorama should surely be taken into account. As far as the convenience of the promenade goes, this course is well situ-

But really, since the races themselves occupy but a small part of the time spent at a race meeting, have not the public the



The Famous Hippodrome at Buenos Aires.

and in Latin countries generally, the young girl is a cipher. She may be seen no doubt in the home, at concerts, where she figures in large numbers for the satisfaction of our eyes; at Palermo, at the Tigre, and the Ice Palace-very respectable—where she skates under her mother's eyes, and finally at balls whose charms and special rites are the same the world over. But all this does not make a South American girl an element of conversation and of social relation as in the United States. She remains on the edge of society until the day of her marriage.

At the same time the Argentine girl must not be supposed to resemble very closely her sister in Latin Europe. Less educated perhaps, but more vivacious and less timidly reserved, she shows greater independence at Mor del Plata, which is the sole common meeting ground for wealthier families, since the pampas offer no resource outside the "estancia" for cattle breeding and farming. At the Colon Theatre and at the opera she is seated well in view in front of the box. making the whole ground floor an immense basket of beribboned flowers, and there, under the eyes of the parents, the young men friends of her family are per-

mitted to pay their respects to her. Must it be confessed? It is said that she makes use of borrowed charms, applied with puff and pencil, following in this the example of her who should rather prevent than abet. This must, however, be libel, since whenever I ventured a query on the point I was met with a shrug of the shoulders and a burst of laughter. In such a case, the man who can laugh sees always more than smoke.

The husband is by no means inactive, whatever may be said to the contrary. I have more than once observed that he is less indifferent to the education of his children than he is credited with being. And if I did come across a few specimens of idle youth engaged in throwing piastres over "les moulins." the evil of the head of a family seeking amusements illicit or otherwise to while away his idle hours is out of all proportion with what may be seen in any European capital.

Although I have written nothing that is not strictly true, I am not seeking to present the Argentine husband as the phoenix of the world. Money is so plentiful that evil thoughts come unsought, and in the event of temptation arising, I have reason to believe that opportunities for indulgence are not lacking. But it is as well to preserve the strictest mystery on the subject, for Buenos Ayres gives me the impression of being very like a provincial town, and any and who allowed himself to be caught.

ganizing. The magnificent produce to be seen at exhibitions is not raised by the grace of God alone, and all the "big Argentines" whom I have met not only talked of their "estancias," with an infinity of details that showed a close and keen interest and a constant looking out for improvements, but frequently they gave me to understand that part of their time was devoted to some other extensive undertaking, while not a few have astonished me by the promptness with which they brought up in conversation important questions of serious import to every modern civilized community, which they handled in a manner that betrayed close and systematic study.

The growing interest taken in all kinds of labor on the soil and the need of perfecting their races of cattle, both for breeding and for meat, have led the larger owners to group themselves into a utilitarian club, which they call the Jockey Club. The name suffices to denote the aristocratic pretensions of an institution that has nevertheless rendered important services to the cause, as well for horned cat-

tle as for horses. The sumptuous fittings lack that rich simplicity in which the English delight. The decorations are borrowed from Europe, but the working of the club is wholly American. The greatest comfort reigns in all departments of the palace. whose luxury is not allowed modestly to disguise itself. The table arrangements impeccably Parisian. Fine drawing rooms, in which the light is pleasantly diffused. A large rotunda in Empire style, which is the gem of the collection, but which, like Napoleon himself, lacks moderation. An austere library, reading rooms, banqueting rooms, &c.

To explain all the money either amassed or flung away here, it must be remembered that all the receipts taken at the race courses—less a small tax by the Government-come back to the Jockey Club. which is at liberty to dispose of it at will. Hence the large fortune of the establishment which has just purchased in the best part of Buenos Ayres a piece of land that cost it \$7,000,000, on which it is proposed to erect a palace still more grandiose. I saw in the papers that the Jockey Club intends to offer to the Government the building it now occupies in the Rue Florida, and it is believed that the Foreign Office will be moved there. You see, the Argentine cattle breeders have a house of their own and make the

most of it. The President of the Jockey Club, M. Benito Villanueva, is a Senator, an important person in the business world, who unites the superlatively go-ahead quality of the North American to the urbane gracefulness diluted with unpretending

right to ask those who organize the sport to provide an agreeable landscape for their eyes to dwell on? I was told that the hillside would be concealed later by plantations. In this way only the trains which traverse the course from one end to the other would be visible.

I do not want to say anything against this form of amusement; but since it can be obtained in any part of the country, it might better perhaps be reserved for the ranchos in the pampas. The more so since the railway whose route would be altered might by a cutting through the ridge let in a flood of light as far down as the Rio.

The racing world, from horses to humans, being everywhere alike, I should have nothing to say either of the professionals or the public did I not feel called on to note that the feminine section of Buenos Ayres society, as seen in the stands of the race course-inferior in quantity if not in quality to the gatherings of Longchamps-was clad in the very latest creations of the Rue de la Paix. worn with an assurance and virtuosity worthy of all praise. I do not say that a fault might not be perceived here and there. At the same time, it is pleasing to record that some Parisian freaks find but a very distant echo in these brilliant scenes, a fact all to the credit of Argentine ladies. Here the cunning extravagances of beauties who have nothing to lose cannot react, as it does with us, on the propriety of the toilets of ladies in society in the universal competition for devices designed solely to attract the eye. The reason is plain. The demi-monde does not exist here, for the few professional beauties who drift across the ocean for some special occasion cannot be said to constitute a class, and at the race meetings they avoid the grand stand of the Hippodrome to take refuge in the paddock, where their isolation arouses pity rather than admiration.

Still, under the wing of M. Villanueva, I had the pleasure of seeing the "Tigre," the most charming spot available to the inhabitants of Buenos Aires who want a

day in the country. Do not imagine, however, that the place is a menagerie. In long past ages there were, it appears, many of the great cats who ventured out to the mouth of the Parana River to watch for a breakfast at the expense of the citizens. Times have changed, however. It is the respectable Argentine now who comes to rest in the islands, and he has taken precautions to prevent the tiger from ever returning to the spot. A tangle of streams forming the delta of the Parana and encircling innumerable islets covered with

(Continued on Page 11.)

luxuriant vegetation makes what has

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CLEMENCEAU PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE WOMEN OF ARGENTINA

(Continued from Page 2.)

been prettily called a "Venice of gardens."

Imagine in this setting plantations of trees of every kind clinging to the shores of the floating islands, and reflected in the mirror of the clear water; imagine orchards without end gorgeous in their Spring or Autumn dress; fill the green glades and groves with a profusion of wild and cultivated flowers; call up before your mind's eye a vision of boats, large and small, filled with happy youth and gliding to the music of the oars up and down the water channels beneath the branches of the trees to an accompaniment of song and laughter, and you will have some idea of the attractions which the "Tigre" offers to its visitors.

"Quintas," (country houses, châlets built on piles, hotels, restaurants, wineshops, establishments of all sorts for all classes of society, who mingle here and find rest and change after a busy season in the city, offer a peaceful refuge For leisure hours to be spent on these enin anted streams. Higher up still, passing miles of wood and water plants, there are places still more picturesque to be found, where man as yet has not put his hand and where one drifts quietly down canals half blocked with flowering -shrubs and trees, coming out again into clear water by the waterway to the Parana, followed by the big Paraguay boats laden with oranges, whose decks gleam in the brilliant sunshine like fanciful galleys of gold.

The "Tigre" is reached by train, which in twenty minute places you on board the skiff engaged beforehand. M. Villanueva sticks at nothing, and he had planned to make the trip in his motor car on a road that was said to be finished. Roads, however, are not a strong

An Interesting Visit to Some of the Suburbs of Buenos Aires.

point in this country, owing to the lack of stone. After a journey that reminded us at times of the water leap at Auteuil we reached the "Tigre," the car, by some miracle, still holding together, but ourselves much shaken in our inward parts. Our first thought on reaching the railway station was to take a little rest in easy chair or couch.

Since the subject of furniture and the hotels that provide it has thus cropped up, I may take the opportunity of saying that in the Argentine, as in Brazil, the internal arrangements of the houses show that the greater part of the time in this land is spent out of doors. Italy,

with its open-air life, was naturally the land to which the Argentine turned for architects to supply overdecorated furniture, meant rather to look at than to use, and when cheap German goods have added their clumsy lines to the rest, one may be pardoned for finding a lack of comfort as of grace, according to French ways of thinking. In aristocratic salons the best Parisian upholsterers have at least left their mark-with a certain crowding of arrangement, if the truth must be told. Here and there some bits of "antiques" were even visible, lending invariably an effect of simplicity and just proportion. My criticisms must be

taken in the most general way possible. It is chiefly in the hotels that one feels the furthest from Europes and this in spite of a manifest attempt to do things well. A continual change of servants and a bad division of labor insure infinite discomfort for the traveler. There is, it is true, central heating, but it works irregularly. Is the pampero blowing? The pipes of the radiator shake the window panes with their tempestuous snorting and bubbling, waking you out of your sleep with the suddenness of their noise, but they diffuse only cold air. An electric heating apparatus hastily put in is used to supplement the other. Do you. want to lock up some papers in a drawer? Perhaps after a long search you may find a key, but it will assuredly fit no lock in your room. And as I was rude enough to insist, the manager, anxious to oblige me with something that would lock, ordered his own safe to be placed in my apartment, with all his accounts therein. When I opened the drawer which had been placed at my disposal I found money in it! Oh, what marvelous hospitality!

The dearness of living in Buenos Aires -and of the rents in particular-has been remarked on by many travelers. Chimneys are now being added to the new houses. The European who comes to the Argentine for the Winter months-June, July. August-can but be delighted with the change. But he will suffer keenly from the cold, for if the sun shines perseveringly in a cloudless sky, an icy south wind will prove very trying to the European who is not accustomed to such sharp contrasts. As for the Summer season every one talked of its charms, the principal being apparently to go and wipe one's brow at the "Tigre" or at Mar del Plata, in default of the mountain resorts within reach of the Brazilians.

Difficult to speak of Argentine cookery -which is rather international-always excepting those households that boast a French cook. The influence of Italy with her pastes and cheeses predominates. Little variety in the fish. Deplorably tough meat for the reason that it is always consumed too fresh. Vegetables without much character. Too much tropical fruit or European fruit spoiled by the effect of the tropics. Lobsters and European fish imported by freezing apparatus, not to be recommended. Excellent table water. The national dishes: "Puchero," boiled beef, excellent, the animal not killed the same morning; "asado," lamb roasted whole, savory souvenir of my excursions in Greece the second of th